



Octagon Theatre

Whangarei Repertory Society Inc

NEWSLETTER

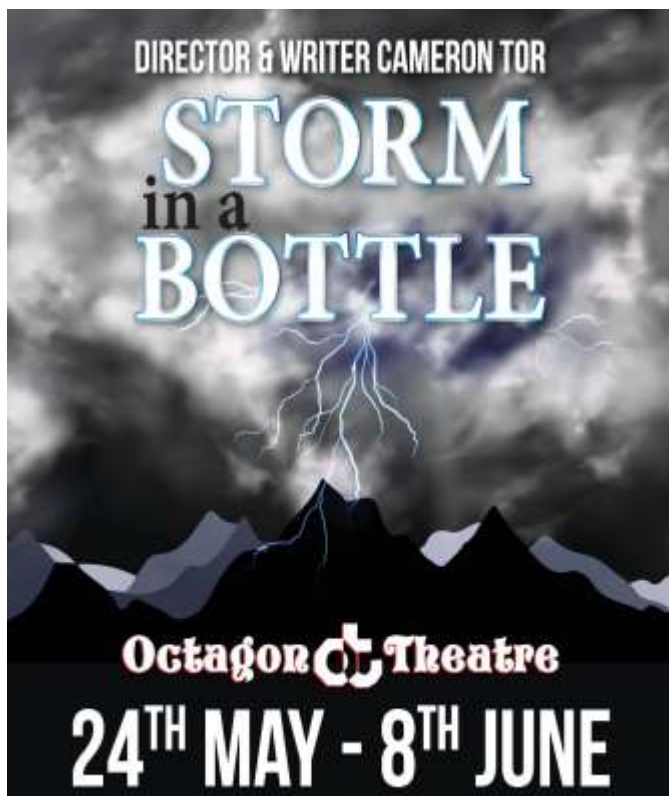
April 2024

Greetings everyone...

Our first newsletter for some time and as you can see... we have been busy.

Firstly.... Thank you to the cast, crew, helpers and team who made the **Darling Buds of May** a HUGE success. Lots of work goes on in the background for every production and the Management Committee is very thankful to all volunteers seen and unseen who contributed to making this yet another success for The Octagon.

Our **next production** is already in rehearsal.



The Octagon is pleased to support a local writer in bringing this intriguing drama to the stage.

ONLINE BOOKINGS open on 29th April

Annual General Meeting

May 15 May 15 May 15

The Management Committee has set **May 15th** as the date for the Annual General Meeting. 7pm at the Octagon Theatre 13 Aubrey Street, Regent, Whangarei.

Written nominations for positions on the Management Committee are now open. Written nominations must be with the secretary by **April 8th**.

Nominations for positions will also be taken from the floor at the AGM provided that the nominee, mover and seconder are present at the meeting. Recent changes in legislation require that all nominees give their written permission for their names to be considered.

Nomination forms are available from the secretary

octagonsecretary22@gmail.com

Forms are also available at the theatre

AGM Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies:
3. Minutes of the 2023 AGM:
4. President's 2023 -2024 Report
5. Financial Report & Accountant's Report:
6. Resignations from the committee:
7. Election of Officers for the 2024 -2025-year President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Election of Management Committee members

The 2024 – 2025 committee will hold a short business only meeting following the AGM

Light Refreshments will be available

Membership Fees are now Due

\$20.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for families

Pay online:

Bank Account Name: Whangarei
Repertory Society Incorporated

Acc No. 06-0103082-00

Please include your name

So... What's Been Happening?

The Green Room: has FINALLY had the leaks and roofing etc fixed after Cyclone Gabriel and other storms. A special thanks to all who "weathered the storm" and the frustrations of a very long process.

Thanks also to the team who took on the challenge of upgrading the Green Room. It is now a welcoming space for casts and crews as they bring productions to the stage.

The Shed... yes, the shed! Cleared out, (again thanks to those who took on this mammoth task), lights replaced and the gear sorted, stacked and made accessible. The next stage is to equip the workshop with some battery powered tools for those volunteers who build, create and make on site.

The Dining Room: New tables are now in place and a supply of new chairs is being investigated ... (watch this space). The decor has been updated with samples of costumes, posters and memorabilia from shows gone by.

The Wardrobe: Many do not even know where this is in the building, but the small team has been busy in there also. Limited space is a challenge in all areas of The Octagon so decisions about what stays and what goes have had to be made. Again, time consuming but valuable work.

The Grounds: Our neighbours have recently erected a most attractive fence (at no cost to The Octagon... thank you) and this is much appreciated. Along with that, members have re-planted the gardens at the entrance so that a splash of colour now greets patrons as they arrive. Thank you

Lastly...To those unseen and unsung

Organisations such as The Repertory Society is, (as you know) staffed by volunteers many of whom do not appear on stage, or in the public eye, however, without them, the Octagon Theatre would not be what it is today and what it will be in the future. So, thank you to the dishwashers... those who do the laundry every night during a production... the rubbish organisers... the management committee...the kitchen team... the carpenters... the painters... the sewers and decorators and especially (and most importantly) the families that support husbands and wives, daughters and sons as they make things happen at The Octagon.

Catering

The catering team produce amazing delicious meals and everyone enjoys the variety and the tastiness of these.

On their behalf... we make a plea...(again)

If you have a dietary requirement the team can cope with that if they know in advance. The team offers Vegetarian and Gluten Free options if they know in advance. They may also accommodate other requests if they know in advance.

The online booking procedure asks that patrons needing a special meal request this at the time the seat is booked. Otherwise, the standard meal will be provided.

Limited resources mean that the caterer cannot accommodate a person arriving at the door requesting a special meal that has not been pre-ordered, or wanting to change their mind, as supplies have been carefully calculated in order to prevent food waste.

Please... No Pre-order... No Special Meal.

In the background...

For those of you who belong to other organisations, clubs etc, you will be aware that recent changes in legislation have demanded updates and re-writes of guidance documents, constitutions etc. These documents protect everyone, ensure consistency and provide guidance for the volunteers as they create the theatrical experiences of the Octagon.

Coming Up at the Octagon

Next

Storm in a Bottle

Online Bookings open April 29th

Season: 24th May – 8th June

Then

Yet to be finalised.... Watch this space

Season: 9th – 24th August

Following That

The Fringe Festival Returns

Quality acts from near and far

Season: Sept 27th to 13th October

Check local media for details and bookings

And Finally... for 2024

Whangarei Stars

Music, laughter, variety, surprises... all the talent on display.

Online booking date to be announced

Season: 22nd Nov – 7th Dec

Booking Your Seat(s)

Patrons are now familiar with our online booking system and despite a few “hiccups” this has proved a successful transition for the Octagon. Some have still made use of the services of CRANIUMS and the work of the team in the store has been greatly appreciated however that has now come to an end and CRANIUMS will no longer take Octagon bookings. They will (as always) be helpful and they will provide the contact details of our treasurer Allison Healey who has access to the system and will solve booking challenges

Patrons wishing to book seats must now do this online. Remember to order your special meal if you need one.

For assistance with booking... Telephone Allison Healey 021 463 733

The President's Corner

I must first of all thank our Secretary, Bill Fenton, for his time consuming work on our Constitution. There have been several adjustments, despite some being quite small in detail, before the document was finally accepted by the Charities Commission.

So well done and THANK YOU Bill.

As you can see, we have a fairly packed year ahead with not much turnaround time between productions. This means that the teams involved with each one have to be well organised and we are very grateful to them all.

At this year's AGM I shall be standing down as President so please respond to the Secretary with nomination forms or come along to the meeting to give your support to the incoming President and other officers and committee. This is, as a member, your opportunity to have your say, or even volunteer your services.

We have welcomed several younger members to the committee in recent years and I hope they will stay to continue to take the Society forward.

It is almost 50 years since I joined the Committee as Secretary!! (Just saying.)

I Look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Carol Freebairn